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Trials of a Telegraph Operator.

New telegraph operators have to undergo a reception which borders on the treatment known to college freshmen as hazing. The operator thus describes it: "The new man walks into an office full of strange faces, not a friendly hand to shake, with nothing to recommend him but his ability as an operator, and his implicit confidence in that ability for his only encouragement. He approaches the manager's desk, and after five or ten minutes the manager condescends to glance upward, and, in a tone full of thunder, bluntly inquires, 'Well, sir, what is it?' The 'freshman' states his business, and the manager proposes to give him a trial. Accordingly he is assigned to an instrument and told that he is to 'receive a special.' His feelings at this juncture are about the same as those supposed to be experienced by a man who is about to be hanged. Nervously grasping the pen, he begins to copy. The perspiration trickles down his hand, which makes that member adhere to the blank, his pen sticks fast, the ink is the thickest ever encountered, and there is nothing left for him but to break. Casting a guilty glance about him to see if any one is looking, he reaches for the key, and explains to the 'sender' that he is a new man--'please take it steady,' but this only makes matters worse. The sender begins to 'whoop' him up, and as the cold chills run down his spinal column the 'freshman's' pen indites characters upon the blank resembling the Chinese hieroglyphics on a tea box. This torture usually occupies about half an hour, when the welcome 'u m' (no more)--falls soothingly upon his ear. He breathes a sigh of relief, and looks about him. Behind him stand half a dozen operators, with grinning countenances. In a moment light begins to dawn upon the 'freshman'--he is the victim of a joke. A glance in another direction discloses the fact that the most rapid sender in the office had been transmitting to him from the columns of a daily paper for the amusement of the 'boys.' If he accepts the situation as a joke he is initiated, but, if he becomes angered, he is still a 'freshman.'

Albani.

I was at Saratoga eight or nine years ago, and attended an entertainment in the ball room of the United States Hotel. At the close, an old French gentleman arose and begged the audience to listen to his daughters. Among the few who attended this request, this lady saw two rather shabby figures advance behind the old gentleman; they were his daughters, and one was the Albani of today, who was then listened to merely as a matter of courtesy, as there was nothing at all in her voice then to foreshadow the great fame she now enjoys. The father would, however, persist that his daughter could sing, and when others turned away in disbelief he held steadfastly to his faith, and she, in spite of slights and difficulties, persisted and went onward. You may have heard of a magnificent home in London where Albani lived with that old father and sister, who was her companion in the shabby bonnet and shawl that faded even in the slightest degree to enlist the interest of a Saratoga ball room audience. Later, the newspapers tell, she had twenty-three recalls in one night before a critical audience in St. Petersburg, and the great and the high are now busy in her laudation. Is this a reason, dear girls, for taking courage to persevere?--["An Old Lady" in St. Louis Times.]

Why Should a Man Suffer?

I can conceive of no reason why he should, but of ten reasons why he should not. It is vulgar and altogether too mean for a decent man. It is cowardly; implying a fear of either being believed or obeyed. It is ungentlemanly. A gentleman according to Webster, is a man well-bred, refined. Such a one will not more swear than he will go into the trees and throw mud with a clod-hopper. It is indecent; offensive to delicacy and extremely unfit for human ears. It is foolish; want of decency is want of sense. It is abusive to the mind that utters it, and to the person at whom it is aimed. It is venomous, showing a man's heart to be a nest of vipers, and every time he swears, one of them sticks out his head. It is contemptible and forfeits the respect of the wise and the good. It is wicked, as it violates the Divine law and provokes the displeasure of Him who will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

Postponed on account of the weather--Spring.

The Advantages of Silence.

Isiah P. Farnham, who died in Utica recently, had uttered scarcely a word for more than half a century. He was not dumb; he could talk well enough; but he became convinced at an early stage of his life that more harm than good was wrought by speech, and remained true to his principles ever after. When his first child was born he rode seven miles in quest of a physician. He carried slate and pencil, wrote a statement of the situation, returned with the medicine man, and received the announcement of his paternal responsibilities in silence. His wife, who survives him, says no woman ever had a kinder husband. The relations between the couple were always pleasant, and Mrs. Farnham has remarked to her neighbors: "If Isiah talked as much as I do, the Lord knows what might happen." Some of his written replies to the questions of acquaintances who were curious to know why he preferred silence to speech are worthy of mention. One retort was: "A good listener is to be preferred to a poor talker." Another was: "I want to prove that a man can be happy and hold his tongue." Another: "I am trying to think of something good enough to say out loud." A clergyman once asked Isiah whether he didn't think the Lord gave him his tongue to be used. The pencil reply was: "The Lord gave me a mind that tells me when to use my tongue."

The Nation's Boarding School.

Here are some of the scholars, their virtues, traits, etc.:
Dela Ware--A petite damsel, generally talkative, but who last year was peaches.
Mary Land--National. Always with an ocean before her.
Minnie Sots--The flour of the school.
Flora Day--Displays great taste in her arrangements.
Carrie Lina--To memory dear, yet ever for cotton.
Louise Anna--A sorrowful maiden. Her lasses are found in tierce.
Mrs. Ippi--It is her namesake, not herself, which has the big mouth.
Miss Ouri--Likes company. Misery always like company.
Ida Ho--A near relative of "Whom Emma."

Queer Laws.

The law does, or allows, some very queer things. It forces a witness to leave his home and business at any hazard, and dance attendance on the caprices of lawyers for a week or more under penalty of fine and imprisonment for disobedience, and it allows a lawyer whose convenience or business is concerned to keep a court and every body waiting for hours, or even to put off one case entirely to permit him to attend to another, and save both fees. Another queer thing is that a criminal may escape punishment, or even indictment, by the refusal of witnesses to testify unless they are paid. A third thing, still queerer, is the recent development of legal eccentricity in Hancock county. A man by the name of Catt was hung by a mob last fall, to compel him to tell the name of the murderer of Mrs. Wilson and her niece, and on the 25th instant, the leader of the mob, named Levi Hadley, was fined fifty dollars for murder in purpose and process, he should have gone to the penitentiary, at least. The law is a queer affair.--[Indianapolis Herald.]

THE DUTY BEFORE US.

He who talks of shooting others to avenge his personal grievances, must be given to understand that such talk is for communities where brute force--violence is the supreme rule of conduct.

Let us begin at first principles. Public sentiment can make it a stinging disgrace for a man to walk about among his fellow men armed like an animal. Kentucky is not ready to be reamed to savagery. It rests with her people to say whether she will have peace and law and order within her borders, or violence and bloodshed.--[Courier-Journal.]

As a dandy was wending his way

through a narrow passage at the top of Charlotte street, Glasgow, he met a pretty girl, and said to her: "Pray, my dear, what do you call this passage?"

"Balaam's passage," she replied.

"Ah! then I am like Balaam--stopped by an angel!"

"And I," said the girl, pushing past him, "like the angel--stopped by an ass."

The English language is wonderful for its aptness of expression. When a number of men and women get together and look at each other--that's called a sociable. When a hungry crowd call upon a poor minister eat him out of house and home--that's called a donation party.

The beauty of a man's parting his hair in the middle is that it gives both ears an equal chance to flap.

The New Ten-Dollar U. S. Certificate.

The notes are a little wider than ordinary notes, and a trifle shorter. On the face they bear on the upper left corner a vignette of Benjamin Franklin; on the upper right the sign, '\$10'; between the words, 'U. S. Redemptions Certificate; Ten Dollars, April 1st, 1879.' Then follow these words: "This certifies that the sum of Ten Dollars has been deposited with the Treasurer of the United States, under the act of February 26, 1879. [Signed] James Gillfillan, Treasurer U. S., G. W. Scofield, Register. Washington, D. C. Convertible with accrued interest at four per cent. per annum, in ten four-per-cent bonds of the United States, issued under the act of July 12, 1870, and January 20, 1874, upon presentation at the office of the Treasurer of the United States at Washington in sums of \$50 or multiples thereof." On the obverse side are the words, "Certificate of Deposit. Ten Dollars. Interest on this note will accrue as follows: For each 9 days 1c, for each quarter year 10c, for each entire year 40c. United States." These notes can, of course, be used for currency, but it is not likely that those who take them will pass them out of their keeping except in case of great need. For small investments they will be very convenient, and when information about them is widely diffused they will be eagerly sought for.

A Boy on Washington.

Boys' compositions are often fearfully and wonderfully put together. Here's one about George Washington that puts the "Father of his Country" on a stronger moral basis than any that has yet appeared. It serves the still further purpose of showing that where there is real, irrepressible genius, great ideas somewhat precede the knack of spelling: "George Washington was a little boy that once lived in Virginia what had a nax give him by his old man. When George he got the nax he cutted a tree what had cherries on it and eat the cherries and a nother boy. Wen george's old man foun out what george and the nother boy done, he called george to him aa he ses, george Washington, who cutted the bark off the cherry tree? george said i did. The old man said you did. George said i did and i cannot tell a li. Why cast you tell a lie said the old man. Coz said george if i tell a li this here feller blot on me and then i'll be spanked twot. Thats rite said the old man; wenever yer get in to trouble the easyest way out is the best."

THE PROTECTION OF PRAYER.

Among the form of insect life, there is a little creature known to naturalists which can gather around itself a sufficiency of atmospheric air, and so clothed upon it descends into the bottom of the pool, and you may see the little diver moving about dry, and at his ease, protected by his crystal vesture, though the water all around be stagnant and bitter. Prayer is such a protector, a transparent vesture--the world sees it not; a real defense, it keeps out the world. By means of it the believer can gather as much of heavenly atmosphere around him, and with it ascend into the putrid depths of this contaminating world, for a season no evil will touch him, and he knows when to descend for a new supply. Communion with God kept Daniel pure in Babylon.--[Dr. James Hamilton.]

A CELESTIAL VISITOR APPROACHING.

A comet is approaching the earth, and can be seen with a telescope. It moves in an elliptical orbit, with a period of five and a half years, and its first appearance was noted only thirty-three years ago, and its present appearance is the seventh time that it has been recorded. It will be nearest the earth on the 10th, at a computed distance of about seventy-five millions of miles, so that there is not the slightest prospect of a collision. It has never receded much further from the earth than the planet Jupiter. In 1851 it escaped observation, but in 1857 it was seen rising in the extreme southern horizon, reaching a brightness bringing it within easy observation with an opera-glass, and finally disappeared in the Northern sky.--[Baltimore American.]

I think it was in September, if I

rightly now remember, that I heard a knocking, knocking at my door; yes I know 'twas in September, for quite well I now remember, he had been there about fifty times before; had been there knocking at my door. But I opened not; nor wondered, as upon my door he thundered, for he yelled: "Say, now, will you settle this 'ere bill I bring you?" as he battered upon the door; and I answered, calmly answered, "Never more."--[Oil City Derrick.]

"Things," quoted David, in poetical

mood, "are not what they seem." "Of course not," commented Sadie, "the sewing machine seems, but every body knows the machine isn't the shirt it seems." And then nobody said anything for a long time, and David made some remark about people who couldn't appreciate sentiment.--[Burlington Hawkeye.]

Nellie, daughter of Ex-Governor

Hubbard, of Connecticut, has caused a great sensation in Hartford, by eloping. Nellie is 19 years old, a beautiful and highly educated girl. Her lover, Frederick Sheppard, who is several years her senior, has been a hackman, and had been engaged as Gov. Hubbard's coachman last fall.

Tennessee makes \$70,000 a year

out of its Penitentiary, which is leased to the Cherry, O'Connor & Co., for that sum. They pay the guards and clothe and feed the prisoners, but the State provides the Penitentiary officials. The convicts are employed on the public works and hired out to whoever wants their labor.

Man can do many things--but there

is one thing that he can't do, he can't button on a new collar after cutting his thumb nails without looking up in the air.

"Man wants but little here below"

--But here the poet's wrong; for when it's time upon a note, he wants it awful long.

Share and Share Alike.

"Yes," grumbled an interesting husband, "my wife comes to me for money to buy me a Christmas present with--a fine way of doing business, that is! Yes, it is a fine way of doing business, and it is the proper way; and if that husband will stand up a minute we will address our remarks to him, personally: 'Don't you know, sir, that the money belongs as much to your wife as it does to you, only you chance to hold the purse strings? Don't you know that to her industry, her self-denial and her intelligence you owe more than you will be able to pay if you live a hundred years? Don't you know that when you puff yourself up with the idea that she is living on your bounty that you are worse than an egotistical fool? And lastly, don't you know that the best thing you can do, and the right thing, is to give your wife a regular allowance to spend as she chooses, her share of the joint earnings? If you don't know it, it is high time that you had found it out--and you can now sit down.'--[Rochester Democrat.]

Mr. Notbot, one of Virginia's most

respectable citizens, disturbed and alarmed his modest household late the other night by a succession of frightful screams. Mrs. Notbot shook her howling husband, and he sat up in bed, looked around, gasped and then sank back upon his pillow with a great sigh of relief. "Thank the Lord," he said in explanation. "Thank the Lord, it was only a dream. I thought I'd been a member of the Legislature and had come back and was getting my deserts. No one knows how hot tar hills till he feels it." The family prayers next morning were marked by a deeper thankfulness than usual.--[Virginia (New) Chronicle.]

If Tom Buford, the murderer of

Judge Elliott, is not speedily hung by due process of law, there will be no need of any future Bureau of Immigration in the State. All the bureau in all the world could not persuade men to come to a State where human life is held so cheap. These are homely words, but true.--[Lou. News.]

There can be no retreat for the Dem

ocrats from the position they have taken as to the repeal of the Federal Supervisor laws, the jurors' test oath and the use of troops at the polls. These laws must be repealed, cost what it may.--[Baltimore Gazette.]

An agricultural paper tells "How

to Dress a Hog." We know how to dress a hog. Give him a cane, a stove pipe hat and a pair of eye-glasses. After this he will try to pass for a man. But pshaw! a hog will be a hog, no matter how he may be dressed.

An infidel said sarcastically to a

clergyman: "I always spend Sunday in settling my accounts." The reverend gentleman did not waver as expected, but simply replied: "And you will probably spend the day of judgment in the same way."

A man passing through a gateway

in the dark, ran against a post. "I wish that post was in the lower regions!" was his angry remark. "Better wish it was some where else," said a bystander, "you might run against it again."

Dr. Humphrey the other night pointed

out the cause of our present lamentable condition in the sentence--"It is not crime committed, no matter how hideous, but crime unpunished that shakes the foundation of our State."

Two sophomores enter a horse car;

the first takes the only vacant seat, and the second sits in his lap. Presently a young lady enters, and the second soph, rising, says, "Take my seat, madam!"

The best religion is that which will

make a colored man sit down content to eat corn bread for supper, knowing at the same that a neighbor has fat chickens and no dog in his yard.--[N. O. Picayune.]

Whenever a new and startling fact

is brought to light in science, people first say, "It is not true," then that "it is contrary to religion," and, lastly, that "every body knew it before."--[Ag. sig.]

An Indiana Baptist notes that his

State has 194 towns with from 300 to 6,000 people, but no church of his kind. He traveled ninety miles on one railroad without passing a Baptist church.

"Spell 'tat,'" said a little girl of

five years old to a smaller one of three. "I tan't," was the reply. "Well, den," continued the youthful mistress, "If you tan't spell 'tat' spell 'titten.'"

"Jase," said he, "I think if you

lifted your feet away from the fire, we might have some more heat in the room. And they hadn't been married two years, either.

PUBLIC SALE!

As Assignee of J. B. Pettus, Bankrupt, I will, on Monday, April 21st, 1879, being a court-day for Lincoln County, before the Court-house door in Stanford, offer at public sale, a house and lot, centrally located in the town of Oak Orchard, formerly occupied by the petitioner, Pettus. The house is a new and comfortable frame, with four rooms, kitchen and other necessary out-buildings. The lot contains about one acre of land. Terms--On a credit of six months, bond with approved security, bearing six per cent. interest, from day of sale until paid.

BRIGHT'S MILL

**MRS. RUSSELL,
M. F. RUSSELL.**